

From IEMA Director James K. Joseph

Family is important to me. As you know, this job has me on the road constantly. In fact, earlier this month marked the first time since February that I was home with my family for seven days in a row. While I enjoy serving the people, I really love being with my family and watching our young boys grow up.

I recently had the opportunity to spend time with a member of IEMA's extended family. Assistant Director Klinger and I met Jordan Stapleton, son of Tolly Knezevich who works in our Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program. Jordan is a senior in high school and already has an impressive resume: captain of his high school basketball team, taking college courses and ranked in the top 2 percent of his class with a 5.4 GPA out of 4. Learning about him and his educational and professional goals left us confident our country has amazing leaders on the horizon. Tolly said her son was so excited to meet us, but I believe the honor was ours.



Dir. Joseph and Asst. Director Joe Klinger recently met with high school senior Jordan Stapleton, son of IEMA employee Tolly Knezevich.

This spring, we hosted "Bring Your Child to Work Day." I found I learned more from the kids than they learned from us, which was also my experience after starting an intern program at DuPage County when I worked there. So to everyone at IEMA, and any of our partners reading this, if we can ever be of assistance or guidance to your children or grandchildren, just give us a call. We would love to be inspired by them. It's the best part of our jobs.

My thanks to everyone who made the 20th IEMA Training Summit a success. We enjoyed learning new things, sharing information and networking with partners old and new. Your presence and dedication motivate me to continue doing my job. In this newsletter you'll find Summit highlights and pictures, including a photo of my partners in crime who quickly came together to form a band on Wednesday night (you know who you are!). As always, I look forward to hearing from you on how we can together advance public safety in Illinois.

In this issue

IEMA Training Summit Highlights	2-4
IPEM Letter Provides Insights	5
ShakeOut Drill is Oct. 20	6
Applicants Sought for IPAWS Subcommittee	6
Senior Staff Spotlight	7
Cyber Security Awareness Month	7
Radioactive Materials Security	8
GE Morris Spent Fuel Exercise	9
National Preparedness Month Activities	9

2016 IEMA Training Summit



This year's summit featured more than two dozen breakout topics, including a facilitated discussion on mass care planning. Above, Justino Sosa, Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team, facilitates a group discussion.



Statewide Interoperability Coordinator Joe Galvin provided an update on the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) to directors of local emergency management agencies.



Staff from FEMA Region 5 provided an overview and demonstrated capabilities of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS).



Ron Plummer, director of the Orange County, Florida, Office of Emergency Management, outlined issues his agency faced following the tragic Orlando nightclub mass shooting during the general session.



The "Who is on Your Communication Bus?" session featured hands-on activities as participants worked together to explore organizational communication skills.

2016 IEMA Training Summit



Captain Chris Kelenske, director of Michigan's division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, shared lessons learned from the Flint water crisis during the general session.

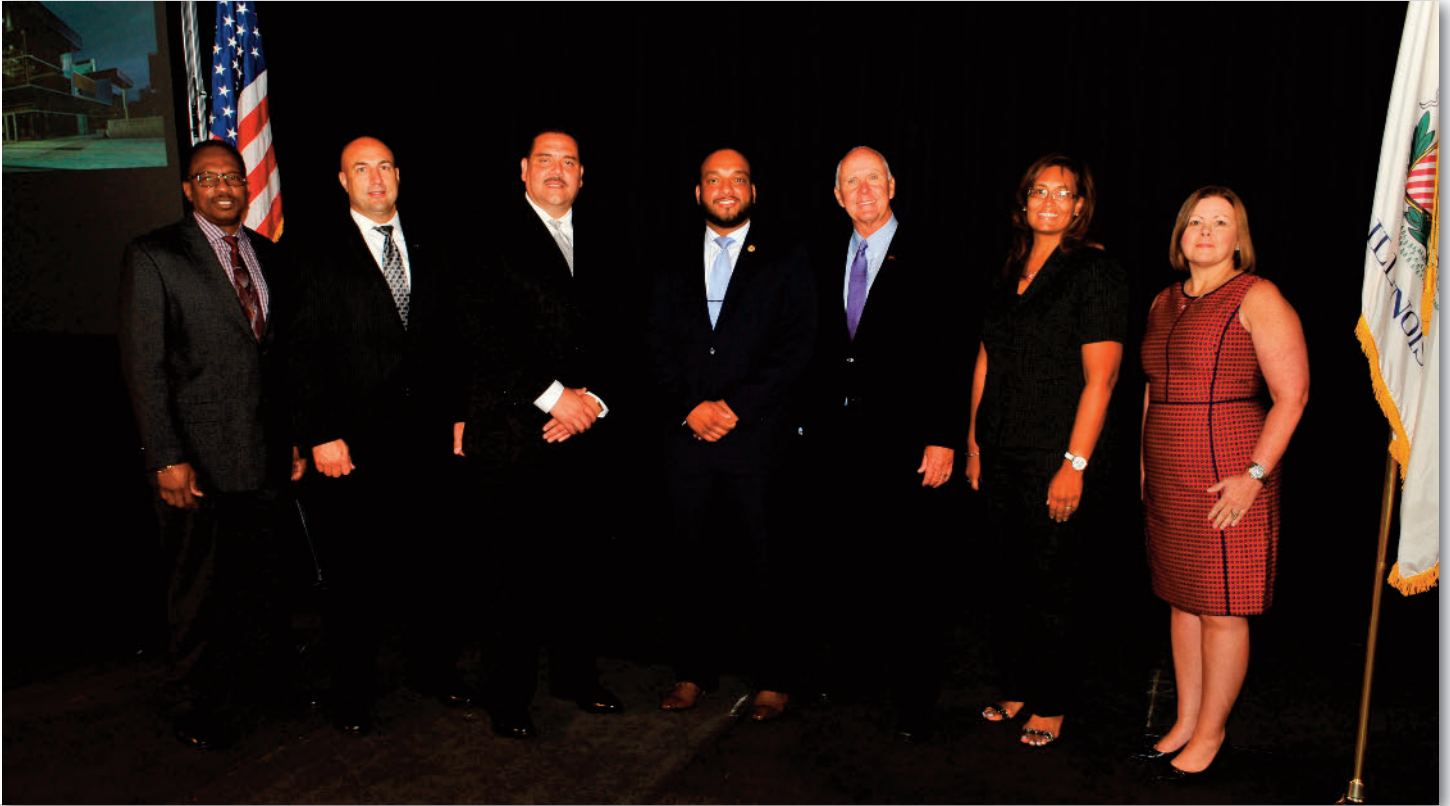


Thirty-two vendors offered summit participants a chance to learn more about their businesses and organizations.

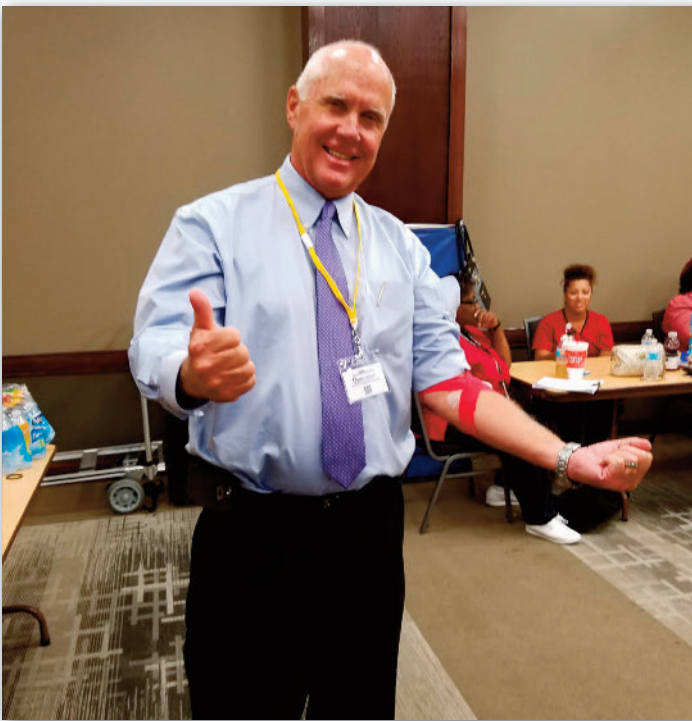


The Illinois State Police Pipes and Drums provided the somber background during a memorial ceremony for emergency management colleagues who passed since the 2015 summit.

2016 IEMA Training Summit



Orange County (FL) EMA Director Ron Plummer, Michigan EM&HS Dir. Chris Kelenske, FEMA 5 Regional Administrator Andrew Velasquez III, Dir. Joseph, Asst. Dir. Joe Klinger, Kim Johnson-Smith (U.S. DHS) and NEMA Executive Dir. Trina Sheets.



IEMA teamed with the American Red Cross to sponsor a blood drive during the summit. IEMA Assistant Director Joe Klinger was one of many participants who helped donate a total of 38 units of blood.



Attendees at the evening social event were treated to an unexpected musical treat when Dir. Joseph (on drums), Dennis Canek, Lisle Police Department, Mary Pratt, Downers Grove EMA, and Joe Galvin, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator, took over the band's instruments and performed.

IPEM Letter Provides Insight on Coordinator Role

Each year during the IEMA Training Summit, individuals are recognized for completing requirements toward the Professional Development Series (PDS) and the Illinois Professional Emergency Manager (IPEM). This year, 68 individuals received their PDS certificates and 18 people earned accreditation for completing the IPEM requirements.

In addition to the many educational, training and exercise requirements to achieve the IPEM, recipients must submit a letter to the IEMA director requesting IPEM accreditation. One such letter submitted this year contained considerable insight into the role of a local emergency management coordinator, and as such Director Joseph chose to include excerpts of the letter submitted by Pam Jacobs, EMA Coordinator for Effingham County, below.

".....One of the most important things I've learned as an Emergency Manager is that all of those pieces of an effective response are hugely important. Each leader, agency, organization, volunteer are all pieces of the whole. They all come with their own special knowledge, training and skills. They all have value beyond what appears on the surface. By combining all the knowledge and experience of all the people devoted to the safety of our families we create a united stance.....It is my responsibility as an Emergency Manager to find ways for all the partners in emergency

preparedness and response to work together for our greatest good.

"...I respectfully ask for the honor of receiving the Illinois Professional Emergency Manager Certification for my County and for all the emergency response agencies, organizations and volunteers who join me in shaping our plans and responding to crisis. With persistent determination we can continue to improve and grow in our coordination and in our contribution to the residents of Effingham County and to the State of Illinois."

Well said, Pam. Keep up the good work!



Effingham County EMA Coordinator Pam Jacobs with IESMA President Ron Graziano and IEMA Director James K. Joseph.

IEMA Encourages Participation in Great ShakeOut Drill

More than 400,000 people in Illinois are already registered for the annual Great ShakeOut earthquake drill, which will take place on Oct. 20 at 10:20 a.m. The drill, which only takes a minute or two, focuses on the "Drop, Cover and Hold On" actions people should take when the earth starts to shake: drop down to the ground, take cover under a table or other piece of heavy furniture and then hold on until the shaking stops.

Illinois has participated in ShakeOut drills for the past six years. In October 2015, nearly 667,000 Illinoisans joined millions of people across the U.S. and around the world in the drill.

Some of the most powerful earthquakes to ever occur in the U.S. happened a little more than 200 years ago

in the New Madrid Seismic Zone, which reaches into southern Illinois. That series of earthquakes lasted for several months, and shaking was felt as far away as the East Coast.

Schools, businesses, government agencies, families and others can register to participate in the drill at www.shakeout.org/centralus. Registered participants will receive additional information about the drill and earthquake preparedness. While the international drill will take place on Oct. 20, individual drills can be conducted anytime within two weeks of that date.

Additional information about the earthquake risk in Illinois and steps to take before, during and after an earthquake are available at www.Ready.Illinois.gov.

Illinois, Iowa to Pilot Enhanced Exercise Initiative

Federal regulations require nuclear power plants to conduct emergency response exercises every two years. With six operating nuclear power plants in Illinois, the state of Illinois is involved in three FEMA-evaluated exercises each year. Over the past 30 years, Illinois has participated in hundreds of drills and exercises for the nuclear power plants. However, the upcoming pre-drill and exercise for the Quad Cities nuclear power station will have a new look as Illinois and Iowa pilot an innovative concept called the Enhanced Exercise Initiative (EEI).

Talks between the two states and their federal partners began in 2015 as an attempt to remove the stigma associated with exercise findings issued by FEMA evaluators. After much discussion and several follow-up meetings, the participants developed a concept whereby the states will be responsible for identifying issues previously captured by FEMA as Level 2 findings. The concept will be piloted during the Quad Cities pre-exercise on Oct. 5 and the Quad Cities exercise on Nov. 16.

The new EEI is an attempt to move beyond the traditional model and toward self-evaluation. IEMA evaluators have been trained to perform this task. In this enhanced mode of drill critiques, participants are expected to be completely candid when assessing individual performance. The purpose of the critique is

not to be a fault-finding session. Rather, the expectation is that the critique will identify areas for improvement.

These “lessons learned” will be captured in an exercise critique or after action report. The evaluators and controllers in the various facilities will serve as an extra line of defense to capture any issues participants fail to identify.

The ultimate goal of the EEI is to demonstrate to FEMA that IEMA is capable of identifying and correcting issues associated with exercise performance. Forms will be provided to participants in both the pre-drill and exercise to document feedback. The form can be used to capture issues in real time, or it can be used after the exercise to document observations for consideration in the after action report. After the Quad Cities exercise, IEMA staff will meet with its counterparts in Iowa to develop a unified after action report.

The EEI is designed to enhance the training and learning opportunities of exercises and drills. It represents the model of continuous improvement by self-identification of issues and incorporating lessons learned into the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program for the state of Illinois.

FEMA Seeks Applicants for IPAWS Subcommittee

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is accepting applications for people to serve on the new Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) subcommittee of the National Advisory Council (NAC).

The subcommittee will develop and submit recommendations for an improved integrated public alert and warning system to the NAC. The subcommittee will consider common alerting and warning protocols, standards, terminology and operating procedures to ensure standards and operating procedures exist for a national public alert warning system.

The FEMA Administrator and the NAC will appoint members representing the following disciplines to

ensure a variety of expert perspectives are reflected in the subcommittee:

- Local, state and tribal government officials
- Emergency managers and first responders
- Vendors, developers and manufacturers of communications systems
- Broadcasting, cable or satellite industry officials
- National organizations representing people with disabilities, functional needs, limited English proficiency and the elderly
- Consumer privacy advocates

Subcommittee appointment terms will begin in 2017 and end in April 2019. Applications must be submitted by Oct. 6, 2016. For more information, visit <https://www.fema.gov/ipaws-subcommittee>.

Meet IEMA's Senior Staff: Coleman Covington



IEMA Legislative Liaison Coleman Covington

As IEMA's newest senior staff member, legislative liaison Coleman Covington took full advantage of the many learning opportunities at the 2016 IEMA Training Summit. On the job for only three days when the summit kicked off, Covington said he was impressed with the many dedicated professionals from the local, state and federal levels he met and heard from during the three-day event.

Covington is a graduate of Eastern Illinois University (EIU) in Charleston with a degree in history and political science and a minor in pre-law. During his senior year, Covington juggled online and independent study courses with a commute to Springfield in order to work as an intern with the state of Illinois. His first intern assignment was with the Governor's Office of Constituent Affairs, where he handled letters and calls from constituents throughout the state. He then interned in the Governor's Office, where he did advance work for the governor's public events.

In the fall of 2014, Covington began a year-long stint in the Dunn Fellowship program in the Governor's Office. As such, he had the unique opportunity to work in the offices of both former Gov. Pat Quinn and current Gov. Bruce Rauner. One of his favorite projects as a Dunn Fellow was heading up Warm Our Heroes, a statewide effort to collect warm winter clothing, dry and canned food and personal items to give to community veterans organizations and Veterans Health Administration hospitals.

Following the Dunn Fellowship program, Covington joined the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), where he was involved with the Unmanned Aerial Systems Oversight Task Force, the autonomous vehicles issue and a constitutional amendment regarding use of dedicated transportation funds. He was one of two legislative liaisons at IDOT and tracked more than 200 bills during the legislative session.

Covington said he is excited to join IEMA's staff because he's interested in the agency's mission to keep people safe. He already has visited all of IEMA's bureaus to learn what they do and recently toured the Clinton nuclear power plant. Covington said he believes it's important to fully understand the agency in order to best represent its issues to members of the General Assembly.

A native of Mattoon, Covington currently lives in Springfield. In his spare time, he is a volunteer coach for the Pleasant Plains junior football team. He also serves as a chapter adviser for Sigma Chi fraternity at EIU and as a representative to Sigma Chi's international headquarters.

October is Cyber Security Awareness Month

IEMA and local emergency management agencies will be promoting cyber safety during National Cyber Security Awareness Month in October. Below are some tips for keeping your personal information safe when you're online:

- Keep security software current to defend against viruses, malware and other online threats.
- Protect all devices that connect to the Internet, including computers, smartphones, gaming systems and other web-enabled devices.
- Use security software to scan USBs and other external devices for viruses and malware.
- Make passwords long and strong by combine capital and lowercase letters with number and symbols.
- Have unique passwords for every account.
- Avoid suspicious links in emails, tweets, posts and online advertising, which can be the way for cybercriminals to access your computer.

IEMA Works to Prevent Radioactive Materials Theft

While security of radioactive materials IEMA regulates has always been a priority, the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, spurred even more stringent security requirements against a potential new threat involving a radiological dispersal device (RDD). Today, IEMA-regulated facilities are considered among the most secure in the entire nation.

This robust security is achieved in layers, with multiple approaches concurrently at work. These security measures are tailored to the facilities where sources are stored and the level of risk they pose. Key elements of the program include the following:

- Background checks, including fingerprinting, to ensure that people with access to sources are trustworthy and reliable;
- Physical barriers and personnel access controls to areas where sources are stored or used;
- Security plans and procedures to detect, deter, assess and respond to unauthorized access attempts;
- Coordination and response planning between licensees and local law enforcement agencies;
- Coordination and tracking of shipments of radioactive material; and
- Security for vehicles to discourage theft of portable devices containing radioactive material.

Beginning in 2005, these requirements were spelled out in legally binding orders and license amendments. IEMA has now incorporated these initial requirements, along with additional measures, into a final rule, 32. Ill. Adm. Code 337 "Physical Protection of Category 1



and Category 2 Quantities of Radioactive Material," published on March 18, 2016.

Another critical component of IEMA's security program involves inspection, enforcement and incident investigation. These elements ensure security programs follow the regulations and that materials remain secure. The agency also continuously coordinates with other state and federal agencies to quickly counter any trend or threat that may arise.

While there have been no specific, credible threats against radioactive sources, IEMA remains ever vigilant. For additional information, please contact Sandi Kessinger at (217)785-9916 or by email at Sandi.Kessinger@illinois.gov.



In late August, Dir. Joseph and several IEMA senior staff members met with the Rock Island District office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to learn more about the Corps' capabilities and its emergency operations center.

Staff Observes Exercise at GE Morris Spent Fuel Facility

IEMA staff members recently observed the biennial radiological exercise at the GE Morris spent nuclear fuel storage facility. The exercise scenario involved a workplace violence situation coupled with a medical emergency and contamination event.

Participants in the exercise included the facility's staff and security force, members of the Grundy County Sheriff and Coal City Fire Department. Personnel from GE Hitachi's facility in Wilmington, North Carolina, served as evaluators and controllers and staff from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission also observed.

From 1984 to 1989, the facility received spent nuclear fuel for storage. Approximately 2,800 fuel bundles currently are stored in the fuel pool.



Luisa Torres, Kay Godby and Mark Porfirio of IEMA's Bureau of Nuclear Facility Safety observed an exercise at the GE Morris spent nuclear fuel facility near Morris.

IEMA Participates in Preparedness Fairs



Region 6 Coordinator Bob Flemming recently participated in a preparedness fair at JCPenney in Springfield.



Region 4 Staff Development Specialist Wendell Brewer provided preparedness information during an event at Daley Plaza in Chicago hosted by the Cook County Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

Previous issues of Inside IEMA are available at:
<http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>.



State of Illinois
Illinois Emergency Management Agency

For more information on this newsletter, contact:

Patti Thompson • Public Information Officer: (217) 557-4756